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Orinda garners more awards for sinkhole repair, street repaving

By Sora O'Doherty

On the list of items for the good of the city at the March 6 city council meeting were two new awards won by Orinda staff for two projects that have already won other awards.

The Miner Road Sinkhole project was selected as the winner of the 2018 Public Works Project Award for Small Cities under the Emergency Construction Repair category by the American Public Works Association - Northern California Chapter at their annual project awards luncheon in San Leandro. Larry Theis, director of public works and engineering services; Jason Chen, senior civil engineer; and Dustin Rath, construction project manager with Vali Cooper and Associates accepted the award on behalf of Orinda.

Given the extensive storm damage last winter throughout northern California, there was considerable competition for the award. The winners for each local chapter of APWA will be submitted to national competition in their respective categories. Winners of these prestigious awards are announced at the national APWA conference in August each year.

In addition, the League of California Cities notified Orinda that the 2017 Annual and Measure J and L Pavement Rehabilitation Project is the winner of the 2018 Outstanding Local Streets and Road Project award. The League will recognize the city's accomplishment at the 2018 Public Works Officers Institute award luncheon on March 29, in Monterey. The council was happy to recognize Theis as well as Farah Khorashadi, Orinda's paving program project manager.

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